

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following rewritten paragraph.

[0009] Historically, most approaches to chemical agent decontamination have focused on the treatment of surfaces after chemical exposure, whether real or merely suspected, has occurred. There are several current methods of decontamination of surfaces. One method is post-exposure washing with hot water with or without addition of detergents or organic solvents, such as caustic solutions (*e.g.*, DS2, bleach) or foams (*e.g.*, Eco, Sandia, Decon Green). Additional types of methods ~~include~~ are an application of intensive heat and carbon dioxide for sustained periods, and incorporation of oxidizing materials (*e.g.*, TiO₂ and porphyrins) into coatings that, when exposed to sustained high levels of UV light, degrade chemical agents (Buchanan, J. H. et al., 1989; Fox, M. A., 1983). Chemical agent resistant coatings (“CARCs”) have been developed to withstand repeated decontamination efforts with such caustic and organic solvents. However, the resulting “decontaminated” materials are often still contaminated. Moreover, many decontamination procedures aerosolize contaminants on surfaces to be cleaned. In addition, it is often hard to clean certain kinds of surfaces such as those with rough texture, or with deep crevasses and other hard to reach areas that must often “self-decontaminate.”